

**REMARKS**

**Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following explanations and remarks.**

**The total number of independent claims present and the total number of claims is covered by the original filing fee and no additional fee is required.**

**The amendment to the specification, and to the pages containing claims 18-20 and 28, corrects the errors objected to by the Examiner. No new matter is presented in the amendment.**

**Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected as anticipated by Hinger et al. The amendment of claims 1 and 2 adds the feature of valve means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of acoustic venting. This feature is not found in Hinger et al or in other prior art which could be combined with that reference.**

**Claims 3 - 19 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any independent claims.**

**Claim 3 has been rewritten in independent as required and should be allowable.**

**Claim 4 is now dependent on claim 3 and has the limitations in claim 4 as originally presented.**

**Claim 5 is now dependent on claim 4 and has the limitations in claim 5 as originally presented.**

**Claim 6 is now dependent on claim 3 and has the limitations in claim 5 and 6 as originally presented.**

**Claim 7 is now dependent on claim 3 and has the limitations in claim 5 and 6 as originally presented.**

**Claim 8 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 7 as originally presented.**

**Claim 9 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 10 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 11 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 12 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 13 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 14 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 15 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 16 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 17 has not been amended but is dependent on claim 8 as originally presented.**

**Claim 18 is now dependent on claim 3 and includes the corrections required by the examiner.**

**Claim 19 is now dependent on claim 3 and includes the corrections required by the examiner.**

**Claim 20 remains independent and includes the corrections required by the examiner.**

**Claim 26 remains dependent on claim 26 and includes the corrections required by the examiner.**

**The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

  
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**List of claims:**

**1. (currently amended) A tunable drum comprising  
a hollow drum shell,  
drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,  
an opening in said drum shell for acoustic venting, and  
valve means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of  
acoustic venting.**

**2. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 1 in which  
the variation in acoustic venting varies the volume, pitch, tone, timbre  
and stick response of said drum.**

**3. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 1  
A tunable drum comprising,  
a hollow drum shell,  
drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,  
an opening through said drum shell for acoustic venting,  
means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of  
acoustic venting, and  
said size adjusting means comprises a slide valve movable between an  
open and a closed position.**

4. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 3, in which  
said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and  
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-  
tween an open and a closed position.

5. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 4,  
~~said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and~~  
~~said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-~~  
between an open and a closed position,

Including means for moving said valves together.

6. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3 5, in which  
said valves are movable pivotally between an open and a closed posi-  
tion, and  
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said valves piv-  
otally.

7. ( currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 3, in which  
said drum has a plurality of venting openings  
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valve means movable  
between an open and a closed position relative to said openings, and

**means for moving said valve means between said open and closed positions.**

**8. (original claim) A drum according to claim 7, in which  
said drum has a plurality of venting openings  
said valve means comprises a ring member having openings corre-  
sponding to said drum venting openings,  
said ring member being movable between an open and a closed position  
relative to said openings, and  
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said ring mem-  
ber between said open and closed positions.**

**9. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which  
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum.**

**10. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which  
said ring member is imperforate and positioned for rotation and endwise  
sliding movement inside said drum to cover or uncover said venting openings.**

**11. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which  
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum.**

**12. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which  
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-  
ing**

**an operating member secured on said ring member and extending out-  
side said drum, and**

**said operating member being effective to rotate said ring member to  
vary the size of the drum openings.**

**13. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which  
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum, and in-  
cluding**

**an operating member secured on said ring member and extending out-  
side said drum, and**

**said operating member being effective to rotate said ring member to  
vary the size of the drum openings.**

**14. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which  
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-  
ing**

**an operating handle secured on said ring member and extending outside  
said drum, and**

**said operating handle being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the size of the drum openings.**

**15. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum, and including**

**an operating handle secured on said ring member outside said drum, and**

**said operating handle being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the size of the drum openings.**

**16. (original claim ) A drum according to claim 8, in which said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-**

**ing a bolt member secured on said ring member and extending outside said drum, and**

**said bolt member being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the size of the drum openings and on turning to a tightened position to fix said ring member in position.**

**17. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3, in which  
said drum has a first plurality of coplanar venting openings around the  
periphery thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around  
the periphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,  
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-  
tween an open and a closed position, and  
means for moving said valves between an open and a closed position.**

**18. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3, in which  
said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery  
thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the pe-  
riphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,  
said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having open-  
ings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a sec-  
ond ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of  
drum venting openings  
said first and second ring members being movable between an open and  
a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and  
an operating member secured to said first and said second ring mem-  
bers for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by  
said drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said  
open and closed positions.**

**19. (original claim) A drum according to claim 3, in which  
said drum has a tensioning ring for securing a drumhead under high  
tension on the drumshell,  
said tensioning ring having an upstanding rim portion,  
said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery  
the drumshell and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the  
periphery of said rim portion spaced from said first plurality of openings,  
said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having open-  
ings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a sec-  
ond ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of  
drum venting openings,  
said first and second ring members being movable between an open and  
a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and  
an operating handle secured to said first and said second ring members  
for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by said  
drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said open and  
closed positions.**

**20. (currently amended) The combination with a drum having a plurality  
of venting openings in the drumshell, of  
a ring member of a size having a sliding fit in the drumshell for  
movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.**

**21. (original claim) A combination according to claim 20 in which,  
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and  
said ring member has openings, is split at one place, and has com-  
pressed spring means tending to expand the ring member to fit tightly inside  
said drum, and  
said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position  
relative to said openings.**

**22. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,  
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and  
said ring member has openings corresponding to said drum venting  
openings,  
said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position  
relative to said openings.**

**23. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,  
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and  
said ring member is imperforate, and movable endwise of the drumshell  
between an open and a closed position across said openings.**

**24. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,  
there are two ring members,**

**means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation, and  
handles extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum  
for moving said rings in the drum shell.**

**25. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,  
there are two ring members,  
handle means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation,  
and extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum for  
moving said rings simultaneously in the drum shell.**

**26. (original claim) The combination with a drum, of  
a tensioning ring fitted on the end of the drumshell to tension a drum-  
head thereon,  
said tensioning ring having a plurality of venting openings therein, and  
a ring member of a size having a sliding fit on said tensioning ring for  
movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.**

**27. (original claim) A combination according to claim 26 in which,  
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit inside said tensioning  
ring.**

**28. (currently amended) A combination according to claim 26 in which,  
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit on the outside of said  
tensioning tensioning ring.**